

REMARKS

Claims 3-17 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 10-17 have been added to further define the invention. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Priority

The Examiner acknowledges the claim to priority under §119, but indicates that the priority documents have not been received. Accordingly, Applicants remind the Examiner that priority document JP 2002-213837 was filed in parent application 10/308,111, and respectfully request that he acknowledge receipt thereof.

Drawings

The Examiner asserted that Figs. 13(a), 13(b), 14, and 15, should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--. Applicants have filed herewith replacement drawing sheets wherein these figures are labeled as suggested by the Examiner.

Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because the phrase “the processing circuit having convex portions formed on its periphery” appears to be incorrect. (It is the “magnetic moving member”, not the processing circuit, which has the “convex portions”.) Accordingly, Applicants have amended the specification so as to remove the recitation of “convex portions” in association with the processing circuit.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 1 as including informalities. Specifically, the Examiner again asserted that it is unclear how the processing circuit has “convex portions”. In response,

Applicants have amended claim 1 so as to remove the reference to “convex portions” in connection with the processing circuit.

Although the Examiner did not object to claims 5 and 6, Applicants have amended them to correct minor informalities, and so as to be consistent with the descriptions of the third and fourth embodiments, respectively, as set forth on pages 9-10. Additionally, Applicants have amended claim 8 so as to be consistent with the rest of the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 3-8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, to expedite prosecution of this application, Applicants have written claim 3 in independent form, and have written the subject matter of claims 5 and 6 in independent form (but without the subject matter of claim 3) as new claims 13 and 16.

Conclusion

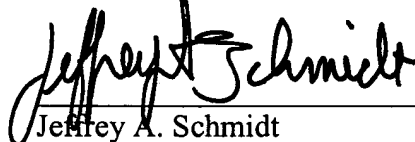
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln No. 10/705,959

Atty Dkt No. Q77759

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Jeffrey A. Schmidt
Registration No. 41,574

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 20, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figs. 13(a), 13(b), 14, and 15, have been labeled as --Prior Art--

Attachment: Three (3) Replacement Drawing Sheets